

ATTEMPT TO BRIBE LESSLER

**TO VOTE FOR HOLLAND TORPEDO
BOATS, CONGRESSMAN SAYS**

He Makes Statement to Naval Affairs Committee and Says an Ex-Congressman Offered Him \$5,000 Through His Clerk — Committee to Investigate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Representative Montague Lessler of New York, a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House, in a meeting of that committee made the sensational charge that \$5,000

This offer, Mr. Lessler said, had been made about a year ago, shortly after his election to the Fifty-seventh Congress, and was renewed at the beginning of the present session during the fight of the

Mr. Lessler was asked by members of the committee to name the man who had offered the bribe, but refused.

Lessler finally said that the bribe had been offered through his clerk, that the man who offered the bribe was an ex-Congressman, but that he must refuse to mention his name.

The Naval Affairs Committee thereupon appointed a sub-committee of five members, of which Chairman Foss of the full committee is also chairman, to investigate the whole matter.

Representatives of the Holland Boat

Company who were seen to-night say that if the bribe was offered, as Representative Lessler asserts, it was not made with the authority of their company.

Representative Lessler was not at his hotel up to a late hour to-night, and could

It has been reported here at different times that last spring Superintendent of Elections McCullagh of New York came to Washington to see President Roosevelt.

ington to see representative Lessler and asked him to vote for a bill providing for the purchase of a large number of Holland torpedo boats by the Government.

According to the story, Supt. McCullagh told Mr. Lessler that many of the most influential people in his (Lessler's) district were interested in the Holland company and wanted to see the bill providing for the purchase of a considerable number of submarines go through.

Mr. Lessler is said to have told Mr. McCullagh that he believed that the latter had done all he could with the election machinery at his command to secure his (Lessler's)

defeat, and that he would not vote for the bill to purchase submarines, as McCullagh wished him to do.

RICH WOMAN UNDER ARREST

Mrs. Wallace Said to Be the Widow of a Prosperous Merchant.

A woman 71 years old, who says she is Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace of 41 West Sixteenth

street, was locked up at Police Headquarters last night on a charge of petty larceny. The prisoner, who was accused of theft from a Sixth avenue department store, protested that she was a respectable woman and had not meant to steal anything.

The house at 41 West Sixteenth street is a boarding house. The woman who conducts it said last night that a Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace lived there and that Mrs. Wallace was wealthy.

"She has plenty of money," said this

woman," and if it is Mrs. Wallace who is arrested there must be something wrong. I cannot conceive of her being guilty of theft, for she is a highly honorable old lady, who not only has plenty of money in her own name, but has wealthy relatives in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Wallace is the widow of a New York City goods man who, I am told, was a rival of A. T. Stewart. He left her a fortune, I have heard. She spends part of her summers in the Berkshires and part of them at Atlantic City."

ILLNESS OF CLARA MORRIS.

Money Troubles One Cause—And She Has Fever and Rheumatism.

YONKERS, Jan. 20.—Clara Morris, the actress and writer, is seriously ill at her home in Riverdale, a suburb of Yonkers. For over a week her physician has refused to allow her to leave her bed, and in the last two months she has been out of the house very seldom. Dr. R. R. Trotter of

It is known that worry over financial difficulties has brought about a condition which practically amounts to nervous collapse. She also has intermittent fever and is suffering from chronic rheumatism.

attendant. He said to-night that he fully expected her to recover. Her physician says the same thing.

Dr. Trotter will allow no outsider to see Mrs. Harriott and has insisted that she be kept absolutely quiet. He has also suggested that all her engagements in the near future be cancelled.

SHAW DIVORCE SUIT BEGUN.

Memorandum Filed in the Courts of Al

BOSTON, Jan. 20.—A memorandum of the filing of a bill has been made in the Circuit Court of Albemarle county, Va., by Mrs. Nance Langhorne Shaw, through her at-

For more than two months there have been hints that divorce proceedings had been ordered begun. Confirmation could

not be procured from either Mr. or Mrs. Shaw. The former has gone to Europe to spend the winter, leaving his brother, Quincy A. Shaw, Jr., of Boston, as his personal representative. All that Mr. Shaw would say was that his brother had not

Mrs. Shaw has returned to her father's home at Mirador, and refuses to talk. Her father has also kept silent.

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